



## STATE OF MICHIGAN

For Immediate Release  
January 26, 2005

Contact: Senator Stamas (989) 732-3190 or Rep. Elsenheimer (517) 373-0829

### **Michigan State Police Dispatch Centers to remain open**

**LANSING** – A proposal that could have closed Michigan State Police Dispatch Centers across the state has been abandoned, announced state Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland, and Rep. Kevin Elsenheimer, R-Bellaire.

“This comes as a great relief,” Stamas said. “Closing the Gaylord dispatch center would have been damaging to the community and the region. The center provides a critical safety component for northern Michigan, and is a stellar example of local and state cooperation.”

The Department of State Police was considering a proposal to close dispatch centers in Gaylord, Paw Paw and Bridgeport as a cost saving measure.

Stamas and Elsenheimer met with local Michigan State Police employees and MSP officials in Lansing regarding his concerns about shutting down the dispatch centers. Both were instrumental in the process, writing letters of concern to the Department of State Police about the possible closure.

“The safety of the Gaylord area residents could have been in jeopardy,” said Elsenheimer. “This is good news for everyone involved, I am glad we were able to reach this resolution.”

According to a statement from State Police Director Col. Tadarial J. Sturdivant, the department has developed an alternative plan for its dispatch centers which provides the required cost savings without closing any dispatch centers.

Stamas and Elsenheimer conveyed that they are hopeful the alternate plan being debated will have little or no impact on personnel at the Gaylord dispatch center and are eager to hear details of the alternate plan.

###